

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: KANETAKA et al.

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLACEMENT SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

The Information Disclosure Statement mailed April 20, 2009 is being replaced with this replacement Supplemental IDS.

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Patent Office additional prior art received in connection with an Official Action issued in Applicants' corresponding Japanese application. Attached is U.S. Patent Office Form PTO-1449, copies of the references listed therein and a copy of the Japanese Official Action. The JP '636, '452, '046, '086, '874 and '966 are already of record in this case. Where available, English counterparts and/or Abstracts are being provided for the convenience of the Examiner. Applicants are not submitting copies of the U.S. Patent Publication as the Office waived the requirement. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

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This Information Disclosure Statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitute prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an Official Action by a foreign Examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of foreign Examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of the country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign Examiner's comments submitted therewith.

The enclosed Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to issuance of the first action on the merits. Therefore, we believe there are no fees involved with this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. However, in the event there are any fees payable, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent Office via the electronic filing procedure on April 30, 2009.

By: SEB

NPS:sb

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